

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1 - 4 (cancelled).

5 (currently amended). The method of claim ~~4~~ 11, further comprising administering an effective amount of a steroid.

6 - 7 (cancelled).

8 (currently amended). The method of ~~claim 7~~ any one of claims 13 - 17 wherein the perforated tympanic membrane is due to tympanostomy.

9 - 10 (cancelled).

11 (currently amended). The method of claim ~~10~~ 8, wherein the type of otitis media is acute post-tympanostomy otorrhea ~~APTO or CSOM~~.

12 (cancelled).

13 (new). A method of treating an individual having otitis media and a perforated tympanic membrane, the method comprising:
administering an effective, nonototoxic, amount of recombinant alpha one-antitrypsin (AAT) to the middle ear by topical application to the external auditory canal.

14 (new). The method of claim 13, wherein the recombinant AAT is yeast-expressed rAAT.

15 (new). The method of claim 13, further comprising:
administering an effective, nonototoxic, amount of an inhibitor of at least one species of matrix metalloprotease (MMP).

16 (new). The method of claim 15, wherein the MMP inhibitor is ilomastat.

17 (new). The method of claim 16, wherein ilomastat is administered in a composition that further comprises yeast-expressed rAAT.